

GOVERNOR'S TRAFFIC SAFETY ADVISORY COMMISSION

December 17, 2004 / 8:30 a.m.

MINUTES

GTSAC MEMBERS

Robert Morris, Chair
Michael Prince
Linda Scarpetta
Ron Wilson
F/Lt. Thad Peterson
John Friend
Cherie Mollison
Sheriff Al Byam
Chief David Stamm
Edwin Tatem

REPRESENTING

Office of the Governor
Office of Highway Safety Planning (OHSP)
Department of Community Health
Department of State (DOS)
Capt. Dan Atkinson, Department of State Police
Department of Transportation (MDOT)
Steve Betterly, Office of Services to the Aging
Local Representative – Michigan Sheriff's Association
Local Representative – Michigan Association of Chief's of Police
Local Representative – County Road Association of Michigan

STAFF

Sue Joseph

GTSAC MEMBERS ABSENT

Vacant

Department of Education (MDE)

TASK TEAMS

Kathy Farnum
Sgt. Matt Bolger
Steve Schreier
Fred Buefer
William Kennedy

Research and Evaluation Team Contact
MSP/Executive Division – Legislation Contact
Intersection Safety Team Contact
Traffic Records Coordinating Committee Contact
Traffic Safety Summit Awards Sub-Committee Contact

ADVISORY GROUPS

Todd Kauffman
Homer Smith

MDCH – Non-Motorized Transportation Safety Action Team Co-Chair
MADD Michigan – Impaired Driving Action Team Chair

GUESTS

Angie Diettem
Pam Hall
Lawrence Hummel
Kim Lariviere
Robert Lariviere
Sandy Liddle
Lucinda Means
Betty Mercer
Dave Morena
Tom Reel
Pietro Semifero
Dave Wallace
Mary Wichman

REPRESENTING

Michigan Center for Rural Safety
Office of Services to the Aging
Van Buren County Road Commission
MDOT
Tetra Tech
Office of Financial and Insurance Services
League of Michigan Bicyclists
Mercer Consulting Group
Federal Highway Administration
Traffic Safety Association of Michigan
OHSP
Prosecuting Attorney's Association of Michigan
MSP/Criminal Justice Information Center

The meeting was called to order and chaired by Robert Morris. Roll call of GTSAC members and introductions completed.

Approval of GTSAC October 22, 2004 Minutes

The October 22, 2004, minutes were approved. **Motion by Linda Scarpetta to accept the minutes as written. Second by Ed Tatem. Motion passed.**

Public Comment/Announcement Items

No Public Comment or Announcements.

Chair Report/Update Items

Chair Report

The meeting schedule for 2005 was moved from the third Friday to the fourth Friday of every other month. The meeting dates for 2005 will be February 25, April 22, June 24, August 26, and October 28. A tentative date of December 16, 2005 has been held on the Conference Room schedule should a meeting be necessary during December. The Comprehensive Highway Safety Plan meeting held last month was a high quality meeting with good participation. Further discussion on the plan will be held later during today's meeting. All Task Team Chairs will report later in the meeting on their proposed activities and focus for 2005.

GTSAC Commissioners' Update

- **Community Health** – UMTRI conducted an observation survey that revealed the booster seat usage rate is very low. A final report of the survey will be shared with the Commission in 2005. Funding for 2005, provided by an OHSP grant, will be used to conduct an on-site assessment of implementation recommendations for child passenger safety. Chair Morris requested a booster seat be brought to the February GTSAC meeting.
- **Education** – Vacant - no report.
- **State** – Secretary Land opened the second super office in Grand Rapids. Extra services are being offered at these super offices around the state. OHSP and DOS are preparing for a February Motorcycle Assessment.
- **State Police** – Trooper Recruit school has graduated with 89 recruits already assigned to field offices. MSP was in attendance at the MADD Red Ribbon kick-off event. A new violation book was made available to assist with railroad enforcement. Legislation will most likely be introduced next year on the hazard stop locations for school buses.
- **Transportation** – A presentation was made to the Transportation Commission on safety program funding levels. The Transportation Commission was very supportive of an increase once the TEA-21 is approved in Washington. The Transportation Summit was held on Wednesday, December 15, 2004. The Safety Action Team determined, at a breakout session, they should be merged with the GTSAC. Future Transportation Summits will still include a safety track. The State Transportation Long-Range Plan is being reviewed and updated. MDOT has established a division to assist local units of government with traffic engineering to incorporate fatality reduction measures.
- **OSA** – OSA supports the Governor's Cool Cities and is working with the team to make the cities elderly mobility friendly.
- **OHSP** – YDDYL campaign will kickoff on Monday, December 20, 2004 with news conferences held around the state. The Lansing news conference will highlight a grant to the MSP Toxicology Lab from OHSP to assist with the backlog of drug and alcohol testing requests. The 2003 Crash Facts and the Truck Safety Report have both been sent to stakeholders as well as posted on the OHSP web site. A Traffic Officers Association is being pilot tested this year through an OHSP grant to Midland Police Department. The 10th Annual Traffic Safety Summit will be held in Lansing on March 1-2, 2005. The registration materials are posted on the OHSP web site.
- **Local Representation** – Edwin Tatem – A Business for Better Roads meeting was held to address congestion problems in Macomb County. Traffic Operations Center is testing software with an anticipated operational facility by early February. An award was received for a Sterling Heights roundabout with a formal announcement in February. CRAM is reviewing legislation on truckload limits. Testing of new computer technology, in conjunction with MDOT, is being conducted this winter for a mechanism that automatically knows when to disperse de-icing materials on bridges.
- **Local Representation** – Sheriff Al Byam – Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police and the Michigan Sheriff's Association will hold their combined annual meeting in February. Holiday enforcement will begin on Monday, December 20, 2004, to support the You Drink and Drive. You Lose. campaign. Calhoun County has been active with sting operations for alcohol sales to minors. Sheriff Byam and the Calhoun County Prosecutor have visited each store that received a citation during the stings. Public awareness of the county youth alcohol problems has resulted in partnerships with schools, MADD and SADD organizations as well as the community.
- **Local Representation** – Chief David Stamm – New appointee representing the Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police is the Chief of Police for Grand Blanc Township. Chief Stamm's focus is to address traffic enforcement in his growing township.

Task Team Reports

➤ **Intersection Safety Action Plan Update** – Steve Schreier/MSP, OHSP

An Intersection Safety Action Plan with updates on current activities was distributed at the October GTSAC meeting as well as posted to the GTSAC web site. The Task Team meets on a yearly basis to review and update the document. Quarterly updates are communicated through e-mail. The GTSAC will be updated on the Task Team activities every six-months.

➤ **Planning and Evaluation** – Kathy Farnum/MSP, OHSP

The Planning and Evaluation Task Team was originally developed to address the future planning needs of the GTSAC. Once the draft Comprehensive Highway Safety Plan is approved by the GTSAC, this Task Team should help implement the plan. Each GTSAC Task Team Chair should be asked to join the Planning and Evaluation Task Team to ensure inclusion with the Comprehensive Highway Safety Plan implement phase. The Planning and Evaluation Task Team should also be the point of contact and follow-up on all task teams implementation measures.

➤ **Elderly Mobility** – Kim Lariviere/MDOT

The Elderly Mobility Task Team sponsored the North American Elderly Mobility Conference in September 2004. The Task Team is currently working with Dave Morena of FHWA to submit articles for a future edition Public Roads magazine. The Task Team is also discussing the Lead State Initiative for Elderly Mobility that is an item later on the agenda.

➤ **Traffic Records Task Team** – Fred Bueter/DOS

The Traffic Records Task Team has implemented crash data improvements. Success of the implemented improvements is shown through the quick and accurate turn around of data to local governments and law enforcement communities.

➤ **Legislative Report** – Sgt. Matt Bolger/MSP, Executive Division

Sergeant Bolger distributed and reviewed a handout on traffic safety legislative issues.

➤ **Summit Award Sub-Committee Report** – William Kennedy/DOS

William Kennedy, Chair of the Summit Awards Sub-Committee, presented a list of proposed award recipients for 2005. **Motion by John Friend to approve the proposed 2005 award winners including the deletion of William Hatten. Second by Mike Prince. Motion Passed.**

Advisory Team Updates

➤ **Non-Motorized Transportation Safety Action Team** – Todd Kauffman/MDOT

Participated in the Comprehensive Highway Safety Plan meeting. Glad to see the action team's area of interest included as a component of the final draft plan.

➤ **Impaired Driving Action Team** – Homer Smith/MADD Michigan

This action team also participated in the Comprehensive Highway Safety Plan meeting and has reviewed the draft document. A language change for the action team's priority area has been sent for incorporation into the final document.

Presentation Item

➤ **Auto Insurance Discount** – Dr. Thomas Reel/Traffic Safety Association of Michigan

A legislative initiative that AARP will be presenting when the legislature reconvenes in January was brought before the GTSAC. Bill Knox, State Lobbyist, presented highlights from the Insurance Code of 1956 with proposed language changes and an insurance discount for seniors who have taken a defensive driving course. A request will be made to DOS for a meeting to discuss the certification of the defensive driving course. The information distributed is a conceptual piece of legislation.

GTSAC Administrative Items

➤ **Lead State Initiative for Elderly Mobility** – John Friend/MDOT

John Friend introduced Kim Lariviere of MDOT to detail the MDOT lead agency request in relation to the Lead State Initiative for Elderly Mobility. Ms. Lariviere gave an overview of the AASHTO Report 500, specifically the Elderly Mobility Document 9 that was used to develop Michigan's Elderly Mobility Action Plan. AASHTO requires a response to the lead state agency request by January. The Elderly Mobility Task Team will be meeting in January to further discuss this lead agency concept and request. **Motion by John Friend for the GTSAC to adopt MDOT's request to be the lead agency with the contingent approval of the Elderly Mobility Task Team January discussion. Second by Linda Scarpetta. Motion Passed.**

➤ **Comprehensive Highway Safety Plan** – Kathy Farnum/MSP, OHSP

Comments for document changes have been received by OHSP. Suggest the proposed changes be forwarded to the appropriate task team to amend as necessary when they address the strategy development implementation for their area of expertise. Motion by Bob Morris to adopt the draft plan for Michigan along with all emphasis areas. The implementation of the Comprehensive Highway Safety Plan is the objective of the GTSAC to achieve. Second by Thad Peterson. Motion Passed.

A table listing all of the emphasis areas and the Task/Advisory Team to address the area revealed emphasis areas with no team to address the issue. Agencies are listed as follows for all emphasis areas within the approved Comprehensive Highway Safety Plan:

Intersection Safety – Intersection Safety Task Team/Contact – Steve Schreier, OHSP

Commercial Vehicle Safety – Michigan Truck Safety Commission/Chair – John Theroux

Alcohol/Drug Impaired Driving – Impaired Driving Action Team/Chair – Homer Smith, MADD

Elderly Mobility and Safety – Elderly Mobility Task Team/Contact – Patricia Carrow, OHSP

Drivers Age 24 and Younger – OHSP will take the lead to develop

Non-Motorized Transportation – Non-Motorized Safety Action Team/Co-Chairs – Lisa Grost, MDCH and Todd Kauffman, MDOT

Occupant Protection – Michigan Child Passenger Safety Coalition/Chair – Heather Hockanson, MDCH

Motorcycle Safety – DOS will take the lead to develop

Decision Making Process and Information Systems – Planning and Evaluation Task Team/Contact – Kathy Farnum, OHSP **and** Traffic Records Task Team/Contact – Jim Culp, MDOT

Work Zone Safety – MDOT already has a team in place

Lane Departure – MDOT will take the lead to develop

Other Driver Behavior and Awareness – OHSP will take the lead to develop

The identified responsible person or agency will report back to the February GTSAC meeting with the name of the proposed chair and committee members. Dave Morena, FHWA will bring AASHTO reference books to the February GTSAC meeting to distribute to the emphasis area team chair.

Other Business

Adjourn. Next Meeting is February 28, 2005 in the Presentation Room at the Collins Road Facility.

Future Meeting Schedule = 4th Friday of every other month

2005 Meeting Schedule

February 28, 2005

April 22, 2005

June 24, 2005

August 26, 2005

October 28, 2005

December 16, 2005 – Held until determined the necessity of a December meeting.